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# BUSHMASTERS BULLETIN



## Company B 37th En Bn (C)(A)

Camp Bondsteel, APO AE 09340

Commander  
CPT James De Lapp

First Sergeant  
1SG Richard Smith



Headquarters Section

Commanders Corner

Headquarters platoon has been continuing to plug away the past two weeks since we last wrote. Things are going well here. Headquarters platoon continues to provide mission support to all the platoons, allowing them to accomplish the company mission.

The most exciting thing that's happened recently was a visit to Camp Bondsteel by none other than the President of the United States and the First Lady. Camp Bondsteel was teeming with reporters and security personnel on the days leading up to the event. Several Bushmasters were able to get a front row seat for the President's speech. Most noteworthy though was the effort of SPC Hicks. After President Bush closed out his speech, SPC Hicks was able to make his way from sitting atop a 5-ton truck at the back of the crowd all the way up to the front line and ultimately was able to shake hands with President Bush and the First Lady. For some reason, they both left shortly after that.

Congratulations are in order for SPC(P) Morrison, who passed the promotion board and achieved a "promotable" status. He will pin on SGT rank on 1 August, 2001.

In other happenings, the recon party for the 27th En Bn (C)(A) arrived the night of 25 July. CPT Matthews from C Co/27th was the counterpart for the Bushmasters. His company will replace us in November. This is yet another milestone down on the road back to Ft. Bragg.

Again, all the soldiers of Headquarters Platoon send their warmest regards and best wishes for all of their friends, family, and loved ones back home. That's all I have.

1LT Countess/SFC Bullock



It has been an exciting last two weeks for all of the Bushmasters. Definitely the most significant event was the visit by the President of the United States and the First Lady to Camp Bondsteel. President Bush spoke to the soldiers of Camp Bondsteel and took time to shake the hands and take pictures with several of the Bushmasters.

The soldiers have been staying busy with projects in sector. Everything from finishing Cernica guard tower, continuing on Green Park, paving Route Stag West, maintaining our Outpost Campaign plan to daily maintenance operations has kept us all on our toes. SPC Reed and CPL Rivers will be representing TF 11th En Bn at the Task Force Falcon Soldier and NCO of the Quarter Boards. We are very proud of their accomplishments and wish them the best of luck. Finally we hosted C/27th En Bn (C)(A) during their recon for their upcoming KFOR 3B rotation. We look forward to the next visit to replace us in November.

CPT De Lapp

Bushmaster 6

## CMS Section

Greetings from Kosovo to the families of the Construction Managers! When we initially arrived in Kosovo, BG David, our Task Force Commanding General stated that his motto was "Be Relentless." And Relentless is an excellent word for your local CMS team. We are now almost half way through our mission here in Kosovo, and we're still going strong. Recently, our team has been assisting with BG David's 25 meter range projects-building rifle ranges all over the American sector to insure that our troops' skills are sharp and ready for anything at any time! We've also been working hard with Freedom Field (SGT Hall's pet project). SGT

Hall and his gang have ensured that the large field is now a large *Flat* field; but more importantly, they have ensured that the equipment operators have the proper information at the right time so that the project progresses very quickly. SSG Patterson has had the opportunity to travel into Macedonia to survey from the top of a hotel in Skopje for KFOR's new microwave network. There are so many more projects that the CMS is involved in, but space will not allow. Suffice to say, your loved ones in the CMS are critical to the success of KFOR's mission here in Kosovo!

CPT Templeman/SFC Thomas



"This isn't your mother's back yard!" SPC Gerebics discovers that Kosovo isn't flat...and the CMS surveyors will show the Bravo Bushmasters how to make it flat! Here SPC Gerebics surveys the rifle range at Binac.

## 1st Vertical Platoon

Hello to all the families and friends of the 1st Platoon Bushmasters. All is well in Kosovo; everyone is staying safe and working extremely hard in the sizzling Balkan heat. In the past two weeks we have been very busy. Every soldier in first platoon continues to do great deeds for Kosovo. These deeds go a long way in furthering the peace process in Kosovo.

Over the past two weeks, the platoon has transitioned from the Pozharan Bus Stop and Sidewalk Project to working on the Outpost Campaign Plan. The Outpost Campaign Plan is a list of American outposts in sector which require some much needed quality of life upgrades. Many of the soldiers working at these outposts do not have access to the same facilities that the soldiers on Camp Bondsteel have access too. The platoon started the first two outpost upgrades on 15 July 01. We worked simultaneously on improving the living conditions at Outpost Terminator near the Serbian border and at an outpost in the town of Klokot. The men at Klokot, who were headed up by SSG Crockett, greatly improved the quality of life for the soldiers there. They added a 15' x 20' cardio workout room, fixed guard tower, built 2 tables, and constructed a solid plywood roof for a general purpose tent. While 1st and Third Squad were working on Klokot, SGT Cooke and his squad helped the soldiers at OP Terminator. They

installed new lighting and built a pull-up bar, a bench, and 8 bookshelves. We finished with these two outposts on 20 July and then moved on to the next two outposts on the list.

Following Klokot and OP Terminator, the platoon then started work on Slivovo and Pasjane. From 23 Jul 01 to 28 Jul 01 the platoon stayed at Camp Monteith because of its geographical relationship with Slivovo and Pasjane. During this week, SFC Page led the men at Slivovo, while SSG McHugh led the men at Pasjane. By 28 July SFC Page and his crew had built an 8'x8' shed, 8 equipment racks, 2 bookshelves, 1 mailbox, 1 pull-up bar, 5 sea-hut shelves, a three tier desk, and 3 picnic tables. SSG McHugh and his crew built two multi-purpose workstations, 4 equipment shelves, and 2 distribution boxes.

As you can see the men are doing great things and working extremely hard to make Kosovo a better place than it was when we arrived here. So please, in support of your loved ones deployed keep the letters and care packages coming. They mean a lot to the men over here. Well, from all the soldiers of 1st platoon we want to say hello to all the families and friends of the Bushmasters and we wish that you will keep us all in your thoughts and prayers.



1st Platoon putting on the roof for building at Klokot CP

1LT Marmon/SFC Page

## 2nd Vertical Platoon

Howdy everyone from Camp Bondsteel (CBS)! Second Platoon sends all our love and best wishes to all the family and friends back at Ft Bragg and to all those around the country.

Our smaller projects have slowed down some as we change our focus from quality of life improvements to major construction projects. This month has been fairly busy with the construction of the Cernica Base Camp where we worked with Brown and Root Services (BRS). It was indeed an experience and their expertise really made it go smoothly and both groups learned a lot from each other. This project employed the entire platoon in constructing guard towers and hot water heater storage facilities. Our platoon was able to complete the project to standard and ahead of schedule, even with last minute design changes. Due to the high quality of work the platoon has been doing in a timely fashion, TFF units have put in numerous requests to get work done at their sites.

In addition to Cernica Base Camp, SSG Hendricks' squad completed a project board for Green Park, an athletic field in the town of Gnjilani, and has started a project in support of a civil affairs unit. Sgt.'s Barnes and Ascott have spearheaded these projects and have done a tremendous job. Their abilities have led to their being requested as advisors to other platoon's mission. Second squad, under SSG Walls excellent tutelage, has also completed a project board and has also supported a Special



Platoon on new tower at Cernica

Forces unit with construction assets. SSG Strohl's squad was a tremendous asset on Cernica Base Camp Project by providing the technical expertise to complete the mission. CPL Rivers, our platoon electrician, even got some hands on experience working alongside the BRS electrician.

As you know, Bondsteel had an important visitor this month. CBS hosted President and Mrs. Bush for a very important visit. In conjunction with that visit, two of second platoons finest soldiers, SPC Dayton and PFC Trujillo had the privilege of being a part of this visit by assisting the Secret Service in providing security for our President. An experience they will not soon forget.

Well, that about raps it up for now. We have several projects on the horizon to keep us very busy for a while. We greatly appreciate all the letters and packages we have been receiving as nothing motivates us more, so keep them coming. Special thanks from second platoon to Mr. and Mrs. Walters for their exceptional support in maintaining the moral of the platoon with their fantastic and huge packages for SPC Walters. We all love them. The mission here is almost half over and we cannot wait to return home. We miss you and will continue to update you bi-monthly with all our projects and experiences here in Kosovo. Take care!

1LT McRae/SFC Price



## Light Equipment Platoon



Getting another load of Gravel in 20T Dumps for Route Improvements

Greetings friends and family of the Light Equipment Platoon, B Company. We are proud to report that good things are still being done on the Kosovo frontier. While authoring the last newsletter, we were in the middle of a route upgrade in the town of Dobrcane. We prepared the road filling in all the pot holes and then assisted the asphalt platoon in paving a new road on top of our repairs. The regular users of the road, including KFOR troops and civilian merchants shippers, gave us many signs of appreciation from a simple "thumbs up" to personal gifts. We then went back and added shoulders to the road for aesthetics. From 18-21 July, SGT Thorne took his squad to the outskirts of the town of Binac

and constructed a 25 meter, small arms range. They cut the range out of the side of a hill in order to use the natural terrain as a backstop for firers. On 23 July, SGT Matteson and his squad assisted the Kosovo Protection Force (TMK) with hauling their new backhoe to a practice dig site. The TMK spent the entire day just learning to use their new engineer asset. On 24 July, President Bush paid the troops at Camp Bondsteel a visit. Since the audience was mainly limited to American soldiers, many of us were afforded the rare opportunity to shake hands with and meet the President. SFC Constantino even gave the Commander in Chief his Jumpmaster coin. That same night we supervised a local Youth Group as they volunteered to help clean up trash at the new sports complex we are building for them in Gjilane. In between jobs, life continues as normal. On 22 July, we took a physical fitness test with the star performers being SPC Newson, SGT Lundy, and SPC Robinson. We have also been sending two soldiers to Sophia, Bulgaria every four days for rest and relaxation. All who have already been say that the city is full of interesting places to visit. The beautiful sights of the city have even inspired PV2 Comeau to become quite the accomplished cameraman. Last but not least, thanks go out to Mama Cole for the delicious peanut butter cookies that PV2 Cole has so graciously shared with everyone!

1LT Wohlfeil/SFC Constantino

## Maintenance Platoon

The past couple of weeks seem to have slipped away for maintenance platoon. Everyone has continued to work diligently on the equipment that has become inoperative during that time. Some of the nights have become long and enduring for the platoon, as they have been racing against time to make a piece of equipment fully mission capable. All of the mechanics have been remaining headstrong no matter how great the task at hand may be. Each person continues to do the best job possible when it comes to turning the wrench and making the equipment operational.

The contact missions have been continuing as maintenance teams go out to recover any equipment broken down. Just recently SGT Babeu and PFC Wilkes recovered a D7 dozer, which became inoperative from a bad fuel filter. The DSU shop continues to work on equipment with major faults. The latest vehicle that they spent time working on was a SEE, which had to have the engine fully replaced. Now SGT Turowski and his squad continue on with their next task and emplace a transmission to another SEE. SGT Freckleton and SGT Ovanic's squad continue to work on the company's equipment keeping the platoons capable of accomplishing the mission.

Just recently the platoon had the opportunity to see

President Bush and the First Lady as they made a visit to Camp Bondsteel. The visit made by the President increased the morale of the platoon as he delivered an inspirational speech to the soldiers. SPC Tran and SPC Vincent had the pleasure to eat lunch with the President and the First Lady. The rest of the day, everyone had off during the Presidential visit, which allowed for some relaxation.

The platoon continues to work on the mission at hand no matter how rough the times tend to be. Everyone has been continuing to keep their heads up and have a positive attitude as another day closes. The platoon has been doing well and have been remaining safe during this rotation.



SPC McAmis and PFC Hostetter putting in a new transmission

2LT Henz/CW2 Madrigal/SSG Bolendar



Company B 37th En Bn (C)(A)  
Camp Bondsteel, APO AE 09340  
Commander  
CPT James De Lapp

First Sergeant  
1SG Richard Smith

**FREE MAIL**

## **BUSHMASTERS**

**Place Address Label Here!**

### **“PRESIDENT BUSH COMES TO CAMP BONDSTEEL AND MEETS THE BUSHMASTERS”**

## 155th Asphalt Platoon



The finished product on Rt Stag West

#### From the Ridge Runners

We will complete two major projects this week. Both asphalt squads are engaged in paving on Camp Montieth and West Stag. By the time the next article hits the press the Ridge Runners should be preparing their equipment for return to the Great State of Tennessee. Our equipment is scheduled to leave Camp Bondsteel on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August. The platoon should be at Fort Benning, Ga, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. Everyone is looking forward to seeing their love ones and getting back on familiar soil.

The 1<sup>st</sup> squad has been working on West Stag for KFOR. The squad moves out from Camp Bondsteel each morning to begin work at 0830. The French, from a commercial Italian contractor supplies the asphalt for the project while the excellent Greek engineers prepared the road base. I think SSG Travis has learned a few words in each language and plans a world tour after this deployment. The project is located inside of Fresija and was in terrible shape and slowed the traffic to a standstill. Once again the Ridge Runners are making things better for the people of Kosovo. Future projects for the squad include Clam Shell 4 and CBS Air Refuel Point.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> squad finished up paving Camp Montieth this week. The project was 9900 tons and took 14 working days to complete. The German contractor provided the asphalt for the squad at 0500 every morning so that we could get out of the heat by midday. Camp Montieth is a former Yugoslav Army base that the US forces have been using for the pass two years. The US forces on CMT will not have to travel on dusty roads and have an excellent running track around the perimeter of the camp. Next week the squad will move to the German Base Camp in Prizern and begin paving a 3.8 km bypass road that is heavily used by local and military traffic. This project will take 8000 tons of asphalt and 14 days to complete.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> squad has supported both line squads by transporting the equipment to the worksites daily. They have also helped the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion recover equipment from their missions near the southern border of Kosovo. The headquarters squad has been preparing for the platoon's movement back to the states. SSG Street has been working on all the paper work that is involved in moving a unit back to the states.

**1LT Lacy/SFC Brooks**